

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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FM USDEL ASWAN

TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 189

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

S E C R E T USDEL ASWAN 00234

EXDIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EG, US

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN REACTION TO ISRAELI COMMENTS RE STATUS
EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI NEGOTIATIONS

1. I HAVE HAD A LONG TALK WITH FAHMY THIS EVENING RE TALKS
OF YESTERDAY AND TODAY. FAHMY PROFESSED NOT TO UNDERSTAND
HOW WE COULD HAVE ALLOWED PREPARATORY PROCESS TO CONTINUE
OVER THESE MANY MONTHS WITHOUT HAVING A BETTER IDEA OF
ISRAELI POSITION. I WENT THROQGH IN GREAT DETAIL BACKGROUND,
BASED UPON YOUR COMMENTS TO THE PRESIDENT, AND EMPHASIZED
TONIGHT WOULD BE A CRITICAL MEETING. FAHMY ENDED UP HOUR
AND A HALF TALK EXPRESSING APPRECIATION YOUR EFFORTS BUT STILL
HYPERCRITICAL OF ISRAELI DEMANDS.

2. DURING SESSION, TAHSIN BASHIR CAME IN WITH RADIO REPORT
THAT PERES HAD PUBLICLY BLASTED EGYPTIAN POSITION AS INAD-
EQUATE. HE HAD ALLEGEDLY DONE SO BEFORE YOUR MEETING WITH
ISRAELI LEADERS. BASHIR PROPOSED TO FAHMY THAT GOE ISSUE
STRONG STATEMENT THIS EVENING TAKING ISSUE WITH PERES'
COMMENTS.

3. I SUGGESTED TO FAHMY THAT THE BETTER PART OF WISDOM IS
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THAT GOE NOT GET INTO A SLUGGING MATCH WITH PERES. DOING

SO WAS NOT LIKELY TO HELP SITUATION. YOU WERE INVOLVED IN
VERY DIFFICULT TALKS AND THE LESS SAID PUBLICLY AT THIS
TIME, THE BETTER.

4. FAHMY AGREED AND INSTRUCTED BASHIR TO MAKE NO COMMENTS AT
THIS TIME ON PERES' REMARKS.

5. FAHMY WISHES YOU ALL SUCCESS.
EILTS

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NNN

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